

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 6, 18, 20, and 22 without prejudice. Please amend the pending Claims as follows:

1. (Previously canceled)
2. (Currently amended) The coating ~~as claimed in~~ of Claim 5, wherein the medical device is a stent.
3. (Currently amended) The coating ~~as claimed in~~ of Claim 5, wherein the drug is a light-sensitive drug or a UV-radiation sensitive drug.
4. (Currently amended) The coating ~~as claimed in~~ of Claim 3, wherein the light-sensitive drug comprises ~~actynicin~~ actinomycin D, paclitaxel, or vincristine.
5. (Currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:
 - (a) a [[drug-]] polymer layer containing a drug;
 - (b) ~~a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the coating;~~ and
 - (c) (b) a topcoat layer disposed upon over the drug-polymer layer; and
 - (c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the topcoat layer.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently amended) The coating ~~as claimed in~~ of Claim [[6]] 5, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound is ~~further~~ additionally ~~dispersed within~~ included in the drug-polymer layer.

8. (Currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:

(a) a polymer layer containing a drug;

(b) a topcoat layer disposed over the drug-polymer layer; and

(c) The coating as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising a film-forming polymer layer disposed on over the topcoat layer, wherein the a light- and/or UV-protective compound is dispersed included in the film-forming polymer layer.

9. (Currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:

(a) a [[drug-]] polymer layer containing a drug; and

(b) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the coating, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20 is dispersed within the drug-polymer layer.

10. (Currently amended) [[A]] The coating for a medical device of Claim 9, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV radiation, the coating additionally comprising:

(a) a drug polymer layer containing a drug;

(b) a primer polymer layer deposited between a surface of the medical device and the drug-polymer layer; and

(c) a light- and/or UV protective compound included in the coating.

11. (Currently amended) The coating as claimed in of Claim 5, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or gold.

12. (Previously canceled)

13. (Previously canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The ~~method as claimed in coating of~~ Claim [[5]] 9, wherein the medical device is a stent.

15. (Currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, the method comprising forming a coating onto a medical device, wherein the coating comprises a [[drug-]] polymer layer containing a drug, a topcoat layer disposed over the drug-polymer layer, and a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the topcoat layer ~~substance incorporated into the coating~~.

16. (Currently amended) The method as ~~claimed in~~ of Claim 15, wherein the drug is a light-sensitive drug or a UV-radiation sensitive drug.

17. (Currently amended) The method as ~~claimed in~~ of Claim 16, wherein the light-sensitive drug comprises ~~aetymiein~~ actinomycin D, paclitaxel, or vincristine.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, the method comprising forming a coating on a medical device, wherein the coating comprises a polymer layer containing a drug, a topcoat layer disposed over the drug-polymer layer. The method as claimed in Claim 18, further comprising a film-forming polymer layer disposed upon over the topcoat layer, wherein the and a light- and/or UV-protective substance is dispersed compound included in the film-forming layer polymer.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in of Claim [[20]] 15, wherein the light-and/or UV-protective substance compound is further additionally dispersed within included in the drug-polymer layer.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in of Claim 15, further additionally comprising a primer polymer layer deposited between a surface of the medical device and the drug-polymer layer.

24. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in of Claim 15, wherein the light-and/or UV-protective substance compound comprises carbon black or gold.

Please enter the following new Claims 25-38:

25. (New) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and a polymer of the topcoat layer is between about 3:1 and about 1:3.

26. (New) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:

(a) a polymer;

(b) a drug included in the polymer; and

(c) carbon black included in the coating.

27. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and a polymer of the topcoat layer is between about 3:1 and about 1:3.

28. (New) A method for fabricating a medical article, the method comprising forming a coating onto a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, wherein the coating comprises:

(a) a polymer

(b) a drug; and

(c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20.

29. (New) The method of Claim 28, wherein the medical device is a stent.

30. (New) The method of Claim 28, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or gold.

31. (New) The coating of Claim 9, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or gold.

32. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the medical device is a stent.

33. (New) A coating for a medical article, comprising:

(a) a polymer

(b) a drug; and

(c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20.

34. (New) The coating of Claim 33, wherein the medical device is a stent.

35. (New) The coating of Claim 33, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or gold.

35. (New) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the medical device is a stent.

36. (New) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or gold.

37. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the medical device is a stent.

38. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or gold.